



Foundations of the National Youth Soccer License



The History

- Discussions began at the NSCAA Convention (Washington, DC) in 1995 between Timo Liekoski (Director of Coaching for US Soccer) and **Dr. Tom Fleck** regarding coaching for recreational coaches.
- Dr. Fleck assembled **Dr. Ron Quinn, Dr. David Carr, Bill Buren, Dave Simeone and Virgil Stringfield**. At the end of the convention, the group continued to exchange ideas via the "state of the art" device known as the FAX machine. . . the idea of holding a pilot course was recommended and US Youth Soccer committed funds for a pilot course.
- In July 1995 the pilot course was hosted at Xavier University in Cincinnati, OH. Twenty-nine individuals representing the parent-coach, directors of coaching, and individuals holding various administrative positions at either the local, state and national levels.
- The first National Youth License Course was held in January of 1996 in Cocoa Expo, FL.
- To this date XXX coaches have attended the National Youth License Course.

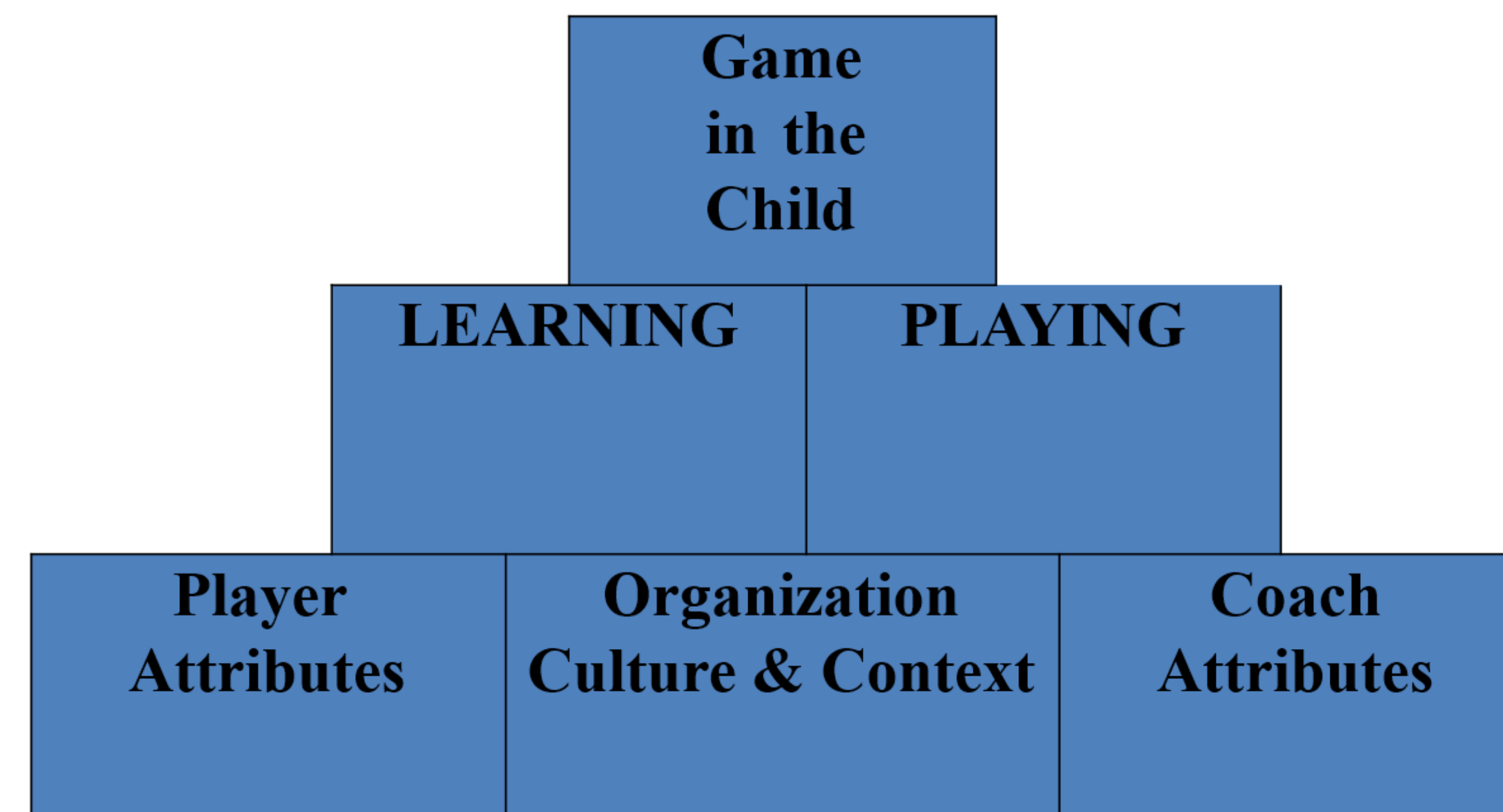


Dr. Tom Fleck

No Laps, No Lines, No Lectures



The Game in The Child



Theory to Practice

- Jean Piaget's Developmental Stages
- Muska Mosston's Slanty Line
- Dr. Marianne Tolbert's Expansion, Equalization and Interactive Challenges
- Lev Vygotsky's Zone of Proximal Development

Principles of Youth Coaching

1. Developmentally Appropriate
2. Clear, Concise, & Correct Information
3. Simple to Complex
4. Safe & Appropriate Training Area
5. Decision Making
6. Implications for the Game

Lessons Learned

- Coaches stated that they are more organized, ask more guiding questions of the players and provided empowering environments where the players actually played soccer more.
- Key words such as developmentally appropriate, guided discovery and player-centered are common themes in post course responses.
- Coaches have alluded that they shared the NYL methodology with their own kids, their players and parents, their colleagues, those they mentor. Several participants even indicated that the methodologies of the NYL have been implemented into their entire club philosophy and curriculums
- The biggest barrier to delivering the NYL methodology are parents. Thus, we still need to help folks better understand the NYL approach.

"I felt the course provided an excellent insight for the U6-U12 age groups. It allowed me to understand the reasons certain activities are appropriate, and why some are not. It also shed some light on the typical characteristics of each group to allow me to understand the typical capabilities of players and how to best provide an environment to enhance development and fun." (Quinn, Huckleberry & Snow, 2012)



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